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Identical letters dated 6 May 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and with reference to the letter from the representative of the Syrian regime dated 5 May 2016 (S/2016/418) and further to our letters addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council, I should like to convey to you the following information.

The Government of Jordan deplores the spurious allegations set out in the letter of the representative of the Syrian regime and stresses that all the information in that letter is completely false. Those allegations are being made at a time when the Syrian regime has completely lost its credibility around the world because of the heinous crimes that it has repeatedly committed against its people, the most recent of which occurred in Aleppo.

It would be better for the Syrian regime to stop its petty exploitation of the Security Council and its misguided incitement. The regime should strive, instead, to implement the resolutions of the Security Council, which serve as proof that the regime has failed to fulfil its responsibilities towards its citizens. The conduct of the Syrian regime, whether in respect of its people or the region, clearly violates international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the Security Council, and is aimed at undermining the efforts of regional and international actors to stop the fighting and combat terrorism in Syria and to resume the United Nations-sponsored political process.

Jordan is committed to fulfilling its humanitarian obligation to care for the kindred Syrian people, who continue to seek refuge in our country in order to escape death and destruction. Jordan will not take heed of the Syrian regime's inept efforts to undermine its humanitarian efforts, or of the regime's attempts to avoid being held accountable for the crimes it commits against its people and to avoid responsibility for bringing about the tragic conditions that have forced the Syrian people to flee and seek refuge.

When Jordan was a member of the Security Council, it helped to draft and sponsored the most significant humanitarian resolutions concerning Syria. Those resolutions have saved the lives of millions of Syrians, as documented in the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of those resolutions. Jordan is the kindred neighbour of Syria and its humanitarian lifeline. Humanitarian convoys depart from Jordanian territory under the supervision of the United Nations and in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, and various United

Nations humanitarian agencies provide support from Jordan to beneficiaries in Syria and throughout the region.

The representative of the Syrian regime will not succeed in his efforts to construct a new narrative that cites countering terrorism or external interference as a pretext, a narrative that contradicts the reality of what is happening in Syria. It should be noted that the primary cause of the humanitarian crisis in that country is the bloody practices of the Syrian regime and its ongoing violations of international humanitarian law and human rights. That crisis has created a hotbed for terrorism.

Jordan complies fully with all Security Council resolutions concerning counter-terrorism and participated effectively and actively in the drafting of those resolutions. That participation is in keeping with Jordan's unwavering policy of countering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, regardless of its sources, because it is contrary to religious and moral teachings and values. Jordan reaffirms that it has consistently fought against terrorism and extremism, and that all of its institutions will continue to confront terrorism comprehensively by stepping up their efforts and by continuing to coordinate and consult with regional and international actors to consolidate stability and security in the region. In that connection, Jordan condemns the Syrian regime's persistent and futile attempts to smear it using baseless allegations. Jordan has in fact long been a model for counter-terrorism from every point of view.

We should like to once again call on the international community to deal firmly and swiftly with the Syrian regime in order to ensure compliance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014) and 2199 (2015); the resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolution 69/189; and international humanitarian law and human rights principles.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dina **Kawar**
Permanent Representative